

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/005966

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
IPC 7	C07C59/48	C07C59/52	C07C59/56	C07C59/58
	C07C59/86	C07C233/33	C07C255/57	C07C291/14
	C07C323/33			
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
B. FIELDS SEARCHED				
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)				
IPC 7 C07C				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)				
EPO-Internal, BEILSTEIN Data, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages			Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>BARRON ET AL: "Synthesis and antiinflammatory activity of 4-(p-biphenylyl)-3-hydroxybutyric acid and related compounds"</p> <p>JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, WASHINGTON, US, vol. 11, no. 6, 1968, pages 1139-1144, XP002147476</p> <p>ISSN: 0022-2623</p> <p>page 1141; table I; compounds 32-43</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-/-</p>			1,3-7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents :				
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		*T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention		
E earlier document but published on or after the International filing date		*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone		
L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)		*V* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.		
O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		*&* document member of the same patent family		
P document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed				
Date of the actual completion of the International search		Date of mailing of the International search report		
22 October 2004		08/11/2004		
Name and mailing address of the ISA		Authorized officer		
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Romano-Götsch, R		

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DATABASE CA 'Online! CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, US; 12 May 1984 (1984-05-12), ROBERTSON, L. W. ET AL: "Microbiological oxidation of the pentyl side chain of cannabinoids" XP002302182 retrieved from STN Database accession no. 89:193590 abstract & EXPERIENTIA , 34(8), 1020-2 CODEN: EXPEAM; ISSN: 0014-4754, 1978, -----	1,2
A	US 6 350 885 B1 (O'BRIEN PATRICK MICHAEL ET AL) 26 February 2002 (2002-02-26) column 8, line 15 - line 59 column 15, line 50 - column 16, line 40 -----	1-7
A	WO 98/09940 A (PURCHASE CLAUDE FORSEY JR ; WARNER LAMBERT CO (US); ROTH BRUCE DAVID) 12 March 1998 (1998-03-12) page 13, line 15 - page 17, line 7; claim 1 -----	1-7

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 4 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claim 4 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: 1,3-7 (in part) because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Although claim 4 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 4

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 1,3-7 (in part)

Present claim 1 relates to an extremely large number of possible compounds. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the compounds claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compounds of claim 2. Consequently, claims 1, 3-7 are only searched partially, e.g. insofar as they cover also the compounds of claim 2.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 6350885	B1	26-02-2002	AU WO	4229499 A 0006560 A1		21-02-2000 10-02-2000
WO 9809940	A	12-03-1998	AU EP HR ID JP WO US US ZA	4159197 A 0927156 A1 970475 A1 17775 A 2002514179 T 9809940 A1 6239288 B1 2001000513 A1 9707918 A		26-03-1998 07-07-1999 31-08-1998 29-01-1998 14-05-2002 12-03-1998 29-05-2001 26-04-2001 02-03-1998